

Message Text

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ACTION ARA-10

INFO OCT-01 SS-14 ISO-00 EUR-08 HA-02 L-01 CA-01 VO-01
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R 092054Z MAY 78
FM AMEMBASSY SANTIAGO
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9165
INFO AMEMBASSY ROME

C O N F I D E N T I A L SANTIAGO 3484

LIMDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: SHUM, PINT, IT, CI
SUBJECT: ITALIAN EMBASSY ASYLEE GONZALEZ

REF: SANTIAGO 0909

1. ICEM'S ROBERTO KOZAK INFORMED US MAY 9 THAT GOC HAS GRANTED APPROVAL FOR RAFAEL GONZALEZ VERDUGO TO LEAVE THE COUNTRY AND THAT GONZALEZ WILL DEPART FOR SPAIN MAY 13. GONZALEZ' AMCIT SON IS RECOVERING FROM PARATYPHOID AND HE AND SRA. GONZALEZ WILL REMAIN IN SANTIAGO FOR ADDITIONAL TWO WEEKS BEFORE ALSO GOING TO SPAIN. THE SPANISH GOVERNMENT HAS ISSUED VISAS FOR ALL THREE.

2. REFUSAL OF GOC TO GUARANTEE GONZALEZ SAFE EXIT FROM CHILE HAS BEEN SUBJECT OF REPEATED EMBASSY DEMARCHES OVER PAST TWO AND A HALF YEARS. IN MID-APRIL WE WERE TOLD BY FOREIGN MINISTRY DIRECTOR GENERAL LAVIN THAT DECISION HAD BEEN REACHED TO LET GONZALEZ LEAVE. NEW FOREIGN MINISTER CUBILLOS CONFIRMED DECISION TO AMBASSADOR APRIL 27.

3. WE HAD ASSUMED THAT GONZALEZ, BECAUSE OF AMCIT
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SON AND HIS OWN LEGAL RESIDENT STATUS, WOULD GO TO THE U.S. AFTER LEAVING CHILE. FOR THIS REASON WE HAVE KEPT VISAS FOR HIMSELF AND WIFE CURRENT. GONZALEZ HAS NOW DECIDED THAT HE DOES NOT WANT TO GO TO THE U.S. ACCORDING TO KOZAK, GONZALEZ WANTS TO START A COMPLETELY NEW LIFE AND FORGET ABOUT EXPERIENCES IN CHILE.

4. WE HAVE TOLD KOZAK THAT DESTINATION OF GONZALEZ AND HIS FAMILY ON LEAVING CHILE IS MATTER FOR GONZALEZ TO DECIDE. IN ORDER TO AVOID ANY POSSIBLE HITCH IN GOC WILLINGNESS TO LET GONZALEZ LEAVE WE BELIEVE IT DESIRABLE THAT THERE BE NO PUBLICITY IN ADVANCE OF DEPARTURE.

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